

Town of Little Creek Council Meeting Minutes for December 5, 2022

The meeting of the Little Creek Town Board was called to order at 7:00 pm by Commissioner Edward Strouse. Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Board members and residents in attendance and a moment of silence was observed. Having observed that four out of four members of the Board of Commissioners were present in person and one member was in attendance via Zoom call for the December meeting, Commissioner Theresa May declared to all persons in attendance that there was a quorum and therefore the Town Council was free to conduct business and begin the meeting. The four members of the Board of Commissioners present for the Town of Little Creek Council Meeting: Commissioner Ed Strouse, Commissioner Carol Puleo, Commissioner Jason Arrington, and Commissioner Theresa May. Commissioner Adrienne Hegman attended via Zoom call. Five members of the public were in attendance in person for the general meeting: Susan Freese, Penny Gentry, Clay Crommett, Carol Williams, and Bill Clark. One member of the public attended the meeting via the Zoom option: Angie Strouse

The meeting minutes from the previous month were electronically sent to the commissioners for their review prior to this meeting. These minutes were also made available to all in attendance as hard copies. All commissioners on the board reviewed the minutes from November 7, 2022, and Commissioner Strouse made a motion to accept the minutes received from the secretary/clerk as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Puleo and put to a full board vote where it was passed unanimously.

The Treasurer's report was unavailable at the time of the meeting, and it was agreed that the reports for November and December would be presented at the January 2, 2023 meeting.

Commissioner Strouse stated the pending bills and provided information on what these bills covered. The formal motion to pay all the bills was made by Commissioner May. This motion was seconded by Commissioners Puleo and Arrington and put to full board for a vote. The Board unanimously passed the motion to pay the current bills.

Committee Reports

- a) **Planning Commission** – Carol Williams and Commissioner Arrington
 - No report
- b) **Parks and Recreation** – Commissioner Hegman
 - Would like to add a Town Hall location marker above Town Hall entrance
 - Susan Freese is willing to help
 - i) **Dog Park** (Mr. Hegman/Ms. Freese/Mr. Courtney)
 - Dog Park sign to be reinstalled along with rules for use
 - Trash pick-up is on Thursdays and council would like to get someone who is willing to assist with moving the dumpster to the curb
 - Well pumps have been removed for the winter and will need new leather before use in the spring

c) **Code Enforcement** – Commissioner Puleo

- Complaints about Grow house have been sent to Brian at the County and also to Brian's supervisor
- Court issued charges for Bailey property and a fence is being erected
- Zero Main Street (Bird Turd LLC, formerly owned by Zimmerman): letter sent concerning complaint about the grass. Council has 2 addresses for the proprietor. One address found to be incorrect. The other address is in Florida. The County put up a violation sign for the grass violation.
- Steininger house is being auctioned at Sheriff's sale for back taxes
- Kent County granted a renovation permit to Steininger in September that expires in April.

d) **Little Creek Fire Company Report** – President Frazier/Chief Scott Bundek

- No one present from Fire Department to give this report.
- Commissioner Arrington gave the following update: The new firetruck is expected to be delivered by mid-January; A CTF request for funds needed to replace a part for one of the trucks was submitted. These funds would now be sent to the Town of Little Creek for distribution to the Fire Department.

e) **Tree Lighting** – Commissioner Strouse

- Mayor Strouse gave a recap of the tree lighting event
- Scott "9 Lives" played Santa

Old Business

a) **Northern Flood Study** - Commissioner Strouse

- Funds totaling \$33,000 were granted by Representative Bonini
- Waiting for the funds to arrive

b) **Bayshore Byways Grant** – Commissioner Strouse

- No news yet on whether the Town has been approved for the grant

c) **ARPA** (American Rescue Plan Act) – Commissioner Strouse

- \$17,001.21
- Have spent very little of these funds

d) **Community Partnerships** - Commissioner May

- Shared the upcoming events planned for the Holidays at Roby and Little Creek UMC
- Sunday 12/18/22, from 11am to 2 pm, the Fire Department will hold their 1000 Day Service

e) **Book Box** – Commissioner Hegman

- Commissioner Arrington will put together the weather tight prefab unit that will replace the original book box that was placed by Town Hall.
- Will use composite posts to prevent rot. Also, concreting the posts will secure the box. Considering adding leash posts so those using the Dog Park can secure pets while looking through book selection.
- Commissioner Arrington needs cement and supplies to mount the new library and Dog Park Sign. A motion was made by Commissioner Puleo for the Town to pay for

the supplies. The motion was seconded by Commissioner May and passed unanimously by the full Board of Commissioners.

f) **Solar Farm** – Commissioner Strouse

- Levy Court Hearing date for the proposed Solar Farm was rescheduled to December 15, 2022.
- The planning commission rescheduled the public hearing due to an incomplete application from the company wanting to build the solar farms near Little Creek.
- The meeting is being held at 6 pm on December 15.

g) **NMA Hazard Mitigation Plan** – Commissioner Strouse

- Letters were drafted for submission to the County for the plan that was voted on by the Commissioners at the November Town Council meeting. They are not needed yet but will be ready for submission when they are needed.

New Business – Commissioner Strouse

a) **Townhall Electric** – Commissioner Strouse

- A 20amp breaker box and outlet were installed on the Post Office side of the building
- The cost for installation was \$250.00. This installation was included in the current bills to be paid.

b) **Municipal Elections** – Commissioner Strouse

- Two positions will be up for elections on March 4th of 2023
- A letter of candidacy for anyone interested in running for either of these positions will be due to the Town Council by February
- Former Secretary/Clerk Penny Gentry agreed to assist Commissioner May with establishing dates and protocol for posting these openings on Town Council and the upcoming election process.

Public Comment

Floor was opened for public comment. Residents shared that at least a dozen people have offered praise for the cement pads at the Dog Park. Holes need to be filled in again, but the fill dirt contained some glass, so will need to get more fill dirt. Concern was raised for aggressive dogs at the park. Ground rules will be clearly stated on sign with rules for the park, but any resident connected to the care of the Dog Park and who observes an aggressive animal should feel free to approach and report the owner.

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn meeting by Commissioner Arrington and seconded by Commissioners Puleo. It was then put to the full Board for vote. All members having voted “Aye” the motion to adjourn was carried and the meeting was officially ended at 7:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa May

Secretary